(a) the number of cotton yarn mills under co-operative sector in Bihar;

(b) whether these mills are able to fulfill the demands of handloom and powerloom units;

(c) whether the Government propose to set up new cotton/cotton yarn mills in Jehanabad, Nalanda and Gaya districts of Bihar;

(d) if so, the number of mills likely to set up during the Eighth Five Year Plan, district-wise; and

(e) the time by which these mills are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) As on 31st January, 1992 there are three Cooperative Spinning Yarn Mills in Bihar.

(b) Since there are no restrictions of inter-state movement of yarn, demands of yarn by handloom and powerloom sectors are met out of the production of all the spinning mills in the country.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e). Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

**World Bank Loan for Chhotanagpur Region**

1740. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of FIANACE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has agreed to provide aid for Chhotanagpur region in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the scheme of which the loan is likely to be utilised?

*THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR)*: (a) to (c). The World Bank is presently involved in the preparation of the Bihar Plateau Development Project covering 9 districts in the tribal sub-plan area of the State. The Project is expected to strengthen the basic rural infrastructure for agricultural development, and will also encourage further people's involvement in development planning and project implementation. Details regarding the quantum of assistance and schemes to be implemented would be known only after the project is finalised.

[*English*]

**Issue of Global Bonds to Indian Companies**

1741. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Indian Companies which have sought permission to float bonds in the overseas market to mobilise resources;

(b) whether the Government have permitted some companies to issue global bonds; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The following companies have sought permission to float bonds in the overseas market to mobilise resources:

(i) Tata Iron & Steel Company Ltd.

(ii) Reliance Industries Ltd.

(iii) Grasim Ltd. and

(iv) Essar Gujarat Ltd.

(b) and (c) The Government have given in principle approval to these companies to issue bonds/equities in the overseas market.

**Impact of New Economic Policy on SCs/STs**

1742. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any study on the impact of new economic policy on Scheduled Casts and Scheduled Tribes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to protect the interest of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). The information is being collected.

**Export of Cashewnuts**

1743. SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of cashewnuts exported during 1990-91 and 1991-92;

(b) the foreign exchange earned therefrom; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to boost its export during 1992-93?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHRUSHEED): (a) and (b). The following is the export of cashewnuts from India during 1990-91 and during April-January of 1991-92:

| *Year* | *Quantity ('000 MT)* | *Value (Rs. crores)* |
|---|---|---|
| 1990-91 (Source: DGCI&S) | 49.812 | 441.40 |
| 1991-92 (April-Jan.) (Source; Cashew EPC) | 37.758 | 481.36 |

(c) The Government introduced a package of trade policy reforms aimed at strengthening of export incentives. This process has accelerated with the measures outlined in the Budget proposals presented to Parliament by the Hon'ble Finance Minister on 29th February, 1992.

In addition to the above, Exported Promotion Councils will be participating in certain selected fairs abroad and delegations of exporters will inter-act with importers in different countries and also by participating in Buyer-seller Meets.

**Income Tax on Dearness Allowance to Central Government Employees**

1744. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state: